Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

November 15, 2002

Daniel G. Montgomery
Executive Director
Air Transportation Stabilization Board
1120 Vermont Avenue, Suite 970
Washington, D.C. 20005

Dear Mr. Montgomery:

We, the Members of the Illinois Delegation, are writing to you regarding United Airlines' application to the Air Transportation Stabilization Board (ATSB). We strongly urge you to approve United's application for a federal loan guarantee as soon as possible.

United has recently submitted an improved business plan to the ATSB. This was made possible by some significant events. Most notably, United's labor unions and management have agreed on a plan to reduce labor costs by \$5.8 billion over 5.5 years, as all of United's employee groups have agreed to make sacrifices. These unprecedented agreements, coupled with other painful cost cuts and profit measures, makes it clear that United will be a strong competitor and will be able to repay the loan. United management and employees are doing all they can to avoid a bankruptcy filing and return to profitability. The federal loan guarantee is essential to this effort.

The September 11th terrorist attacks continue to have a lasting impact on our economy and the viability of our air transportation system. Air carriers, including United, are reporting losses, terminating service and cutting jobs. The prospects of a potential war in the Middle East will have a further destabilizing effect on this critical sector of our economy. By approving United's application for a federal loan guarantee, the ATSB can prevent further economic upheaval.

Your decision on United's application will have a real and lasting impact on thousands of airline employees, businesses and air travelers throughout Illinois, the Country, and the world. In this time of economic uncertainty, we strongly urge you to live up to the mandate Congress gave you in creating the Air Transportation Stabilization Board by approving United Airlines' application for a federal loan guarantee.

On behalf of the 18,000 Illinois United employees and on behalf of the citizens of Illinois that receive over \$1 billion in economic benefits annually from United, thank you for your consideration of this matter of utmost importance to our state and the national economy.

Sincerely,

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cc: The Honorable George W. Bush

The Honorable Norman Mineta

The Honorable Paul O'Neill

The Honorable Alan Greenspan